Most of Deferments For Federal Workers Are Held Justified

Abuses Found in Probe Stick Out Like Sore Thumb, Tydings Says

The report of an investigation of draft deferments among Government employes, conducted by a special Senate committee, stated vesterday that while, on the whole, the privilege had not been abused, some glaring instances of unjustified avoidance of military service were

The committee, headed by Senator Tydings. Democrat, of Maryland, named to inquire into conditions in the executive branch of the Government, reported on this phase of its investigation:

"There have been frequent rumors that mass deferments from military service were being requested and granted to a large number of Government employes. We have investigated this matter throughout all the Government departments and agencies. It has been a rather heartening revelation to find that on the whole the privilege of requesting and granting deferments from military service to personnel in the National Government has not been abused. It is true that in some agencies a large number of employes have been deferred from the draft. but when the committee scrutinized the reason for these deferments it has been found generally that they were warranted in most cases.

Examples of Abuses. "However, this is not to say there

have not been a number of abuses. The abuses we have found stick out like a sore thumb against the record of most governmental agencies which have been confronted with the loss of valuable manpower." The committee cited among examples of "highly questionable de-

ferments" one department in which 12 men were located in one adminis-"The unit," the committee explained, "has a total of only 42 clerical employes, but 28 per cent of the bear a title ending in 'trainees,' with employes of this unit are defer- salaries at \$1,620 per annum. ments. These deferments would have been understandable if they were professional employes, occupied directly on war work, but such is not the case. Officially these deferments are known as 'personnel

officers.' How the deferment of there that shortly after his deferthese co-called 'personnel officers' ment he moved to another agency can be claimed or granted because where he became the executiv offithey are indispensable, rare or cer of a more necessary organizascarce is incomprehensible. To say tion and in the latter position offithat the work of this group is so cially requested his own deferment.' demanding and requires such unusual abilities is ridiculous."

The committee added: "Let us see Lewis B. Hershey, director of selecwhat background these men have tive service, the record of the "aparwhich qualifies them for one of the rent abuses," with the request that 'hallowed' positions. Here is Mr. these cases be reconsidered.

X. 21 years old, appointed in June, "We are recommending" to 1941, at a salary of \$1,620 per an- ator added, "that approximately air raid defense and a host of other num. Nine months later he had 1,000 deferments of persons working things. become such an expert in the field of 'personnel procedural surveys' are under 25 years of age, should that he was promoted and his salbert and the salbert are under 25 years of age, should that he was promoted and his salbert are under 25 years of age, should be re-studied. The burden of this p.m., six days of the week, Col. Don ary raised \$1,000 a year. Further, war ought to fall on all people alike four months after his appointment he had become such an indispensthis department that it was nec- gravated when compared with the essary to have him deferred, and six necessity confronting such agencies months later, not being able to re- as the Federal Bureau of Investiplace this highly indispensable 21year-old expert, it was necessary to obtain a further deferment. That case of the FBI, it is abundantly was the claim of the department clear that it has made its requests for which he worked.

Not Even College Graduate. "This seems to us clearly an abuse a very special field, in one of the of the deferment privilege. Here most important lines of noncomis a young man who has just at- batant war effort of the Nation." tained his 22d anniversary; he is not even a college graduate, which Departments, some 6,000 men have is unusual; he has never been em- been deferred, Senator Tydings reployed other than as a student be- ported, but "the deferment privilege fore entering the Government serv- has been judiciously used by most ic. * * * Keep in mind that his agencies of the National Governdepartment has existed for many, ment." many years. Are there no older employes in this department who had more than one year's experience and at least the equivalent of education to carry on the work that

this young man of prime military

age is performing? The department alleged there were none." And the committee further cited: "Mr. Y is employed in this same department and in the same ad- Angel, Oreg., was awarded the Navy ministrative unit. He is 22 years Flying Cross here today for "extrayoung; was appointed in November, ordinary herosim" while command-1940, at the age of 21, and by May, ing an attacking patrol bomber 1941, he had become such an ex- against a Japanese naval force off pert in the recruiting of stenogra- the Philippines December 27. phers, economists and junior administrative personnel that he was John D. Price, station commandant so indispensable he had to be de- The citation for the 27-year-old ferred; in March, 1942, he had con- flyer, now a flight instructor at the tinued to increase his expertness Jacksonville Naval Air Station, said and enhance his indispensability to the bombing attack was against "a the extent that he was again de- cruiser, destroyers and transports at ferred. Possibly his local board in Jolo, Sulu, P. I." Kansas has the impression that the "The bombing attack met accurate Government of the United States anti-aircraft and fighter opposition," would collapse without his expert- the citation said. "With the leader

ness in recruiting stenographers." of the formation missing, in the Two other instances, almost face of overwhelming odds, you identical, were given. The commit- dived your patrol plane at the entee, commenting on one, that of a emy vessels and released your bombs 23-year-old "expert," said: "The with resultant damage to those vesreasons for his deferment must have | sels. left his draft board in California "Thereafter, your plane having with the impression that the agen- been set afire by enemy fighter atcy, of cabinet rank and many years' tacks, you successfully landed your existence in the Government struc- plane off the coast of Jolo Island ture, would surely collapse should and subsequently led the surviving members of the crew of your plane he have to shoulder a gun."

"Another agency," the committee to the United States Naval Headadded, "which has been ordered by quarters, Soerabaja, Java, N. E. I. the War Production Board to cease During the attack your gunners shot using critical materials, thereby in- down one enemy fighter."

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NEW YORK .- WAAC CANDIDATES -- Brunettes, redheads and blonds by the score form this impressive array in the armory where they are taking written examinations in hopes of becoming -AP Wirephoto. officers in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps.

dicating the value of the agency to the war program, has found it nec-essary to request deferment for **Adopts Army Routine** Transferred After Deferment. For Officer Training

"One other illustration is that of

Senator Tydings said the commit-

Navy Flyer Given Cross

For Raid on Jap Warships

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., June 6.-

Lt. Elwyn L. Christman of Mount

The award was made by Capt

a particular official who was deferred by an agency created as a Only Combat Instruction part of the unemployment relief program. He was so indispensable To Be Left Off Course For Feminine Leaders

By the Associated Press.

DES MOINES, Iowa, June 6 .-Officer candidates for the Women's tee was turning over to Maj. Gen. Army Auxiliary Corps are going to be taught everything a soldier needs women will start a refresher course to know except actual combat.

They'll learn personal hygiene, June 15. "We are recommending," the Senmilitary drill, mess management,

And they'll be on a minute-by- In Virginia Slaying able cog in the administration of of the departments appear more ag- ing courses for the program opening and robbery of his landlord, Frank July 20.

Officer applicants for the WAAC gation, which has requested defer- the country and 440 of them will been robbed of \$75 and a gold come here for training by regular ments of 2,155 employes. In the Army officers and enlisted men befor deferments only where there is insignia and start training other specially trained personnel used in

Seven Daily Classes. The officer candidates will have seven 45-minute classes each day Exclusive of the Army and Navy and 45 minutes of military drill in addition to the regular camp routine. Sundays will be rest day and the women will be allowed freedom from the post, but must remain in Des Moines unless special leave is obtained and this will be given only in cases of emergency.

The courses the women will study Military customs and courtesies,

WAAC Training Camp

A. C. regulations, the wearing and care of uniform and equipment, military sanitation, first aid and personal

hygiene.
Defense against chemical attack, wounds and gas casualties, leadership, mess management, map reading, methods of training, organiza-tion of the Army and of the W. A. A. C., current events, and defense against air attack.

The school will operate eight weeks. Following it will be a fourweek basic training course for auxiliaries (privates) and an eight-week course for specialists. Eventually the entire complement of 25,000 W. A. A. C.'s will be trained here.

Follow Army Routine. Col. Faith said the 150 Army enlisted men who will help train the Monday and officers a similar course

Man Waives Extradition

Richard H. Wines, 62, of Warren-C. Faith, commander of the WAAC ton, Va., yesterday waived extra-Officers' Training School at Fort dition and was returned there in Des Moines, said today in announc- connection with the fatal shooting

Kerns, 70, of May 29. The body of Mr. Kerns was found now are being examined throughout on a road near Warrenton. He had watch, police reported.

Pvt. Theodore E. Marquise of the fore women get their own officer First Precinct arrested Wines Friday at Tenth and I streets N.W. from a description broadcast by Warrenton police.





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